

In the claims:

Please amend claims 1-4 as follows:

1. (currently amended) A colloidal crystal preparation process, wherein compressed air pulses are generated by control of a compressed gas, and then guided to a colloidal crystal preparation vessel having a flat plate ~~type~~ capillary portion to produce a pressure fluctuation therein, which is used as driving power, thereby giving a flow and hard-stopping motion to a colloidal solution in said flat plate ~~type~~ capillary for formation of colloidal crystals of good single crystallinity.

2. (original) A process of preparation of a colloidal crystal gel having good single crystallinity, wherein subsequent to said step of forming colloidal crystals of good single crystallinity as recited in claim 1, a step of gelating the formed colloidal crystals is applied.

3. (currently amended) A colloidal crystal preparation system, comprising compressed gas feeder means, gas pulse formation means for producing a compressed gas as short-time gas pulses, and a colloidal crystal preparation vessel having a flat plate ~~type~~ capillary portion for formation of colloidal crystals.

4. (currently amended) A colloidal crystal gel preparation system, comprising compressed gas feeder means, gas pulse

formation means for producing a compressed gas as short-time gas pulses, a colloidal crystal preparation vessel having a flat plate ~~type~~ capillary portion for formation of colloidal crystals, and gelation acceleration means.